

Assessing Standards Board
2010 Annual Report
February, 2011

The Assessing Standards Board (ASB) met seven times in 2010 and had one public forum at the annual conference for municipalities in November.

The statutory changes enacted by chapter 257, Laws of 2010 (HB1337) were:

- 1) The requirement for three public forums for ASB and Equalization Standards Board (ESB) was change to one public forum, with the boards able to hold more, if they choose.
- 2) Amended RSA 21-J:214-g and RSA 21-J14-f, II to include the language of “suspension of, or other disciplinary action against” to complement decertification. This was done to have differing layers of discipline, not just decertification of an assessor.

There was discussion regarding the consolidation of the ESB and the ASB but no statutory change was enacted. Since the staffing levels of the department have been reduced the minutes will be a summary of attendance, motions and votes rather than a detailed account of the discussions. A digital recording will be kept and available to the public.

The main issue for the ASB during 2010 was the creation of revocation and suspension standard for assessors in New Hampshire. The board members spent many hours to formulate the process to address Charges of Misconduct by an assessing official. This was a second attempt to formulate the process because the municipalities had grave concerns that the board was getting into personnel matters instead of assessing practices.

A flow chard has been attached to show the process of how a “charge of misconduct” is reported, investigation and resolved. This flow chart includes the municipalities in the process, yet does not diminish the authority of the commissioner. Once the charge of misconduct has advanced to the state of an administrative hearing the Department of Revenue Administration hearings rules will be followed.

The board has come up with a draft set of administrative rules which are attached. The “types of misconduct” in ASB307.02 were correlated to the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practices (USPAP) in the ethical canons adopted by the board. (attached)

Respectfully Submitted

Betsey Patten, Chairman
Assessing Standards Board 2010